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Peters Receives Bicycle Coalition "Golden Gear" Award

SAN DIEGO -- Council President Scott Peters was honored tonight for his work on behalf of bicyclists with the prestigious "Golden Gear" award from the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition. The award is given by the Bicycle Coalition periodically when someone has made an "exemplary contribution to bicycling in San Diego," according to Coalition Executive Director Kathy Keehan.

"We're giving the award to Scott for three reasons," Keehan explained. "He understands that bicycling is an important component of our communities and that it provides a real transportation option, he never misses an opportunity to say so, and he pushes the Bicycle Coalition to be even better and stronger in our advocacy efforts. I'm thrilled to be giving Scott the award - he really deserves it."

Council President Peters has long advocated for improving the region's network of urban trails and bike lanes, used by thousands of bicyclists for transportation, exercise and recreation. During his time on the City Council, he has worked to develop trails along the State Route 56 corridor, in the San Dieguito River Park and along the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon. He worked with bicycling advocates on the Bird Rock Traffic Calming Plan to create dedicated bike lanes in that community and to enhance bike lanes in La Jolla, Del Mar and Torrey Pines. His goals as Council President include the establishment of a citywide network of bicycle-accessible trails that would make biking to work a real alternative to driving. As part of that goal Peters supports the proposed North Coastal Rail Trail, which would connect San Diego to other coastal cities in the county.

"Improving bicycle access and safety has many benefits for San Diego," Peters said. "Reducing traffic congestion saves time and promotes cleaner air, and dedicated bike lanes allow children and families to safely take advantage of our beautiful weather and picturesque surroundings. I'm pleased to receive this award and to help the Bicycle Coalition promote bike-friendly policies."

San Diego was recently named by Bicycling magazine as the best city for bicyclists among cities with over one million residents.